

The Grumbler

The Official Newsletter of G.N.H.W.S – November 2002



The Open Day Tis Almost Upon Us!



Welcome to the 7th issue of the Group North newsletter. It has been a busy couple of months since the last edition with the 30th Anniversary night held - a great night and a fantastic turnout!

An article below discusses the preparation for the Open Day, particularly a working bee. Apologies for the late notice on this but please do what you can to contribute some time for the working bee as we will all benefit.

The Warhammer Fantasy Tournament organised by Mike Allen is underway (and wasn't my Empire snatching a "Minor Loss" from the jaws of a "Massacre" inflicted by the Undead was a sight to behold!) so we will post further details, results and points of note next issue.

Cheers
Marc Fairhead
Editor.

Anniversary Activities

As we would all know by now this year marks Group North's 30th Anniversary. As part of the celebrations, the meeting of September 11th was used as a celebration of the club's milestone. The night was scheduled as a regular gaming night, with large multiplayer games of DBA, Warhammer Fantasy and ACW organised for players and visitors to join in, in addition to the regular club games. There was a strong turnout, with 22 current members and a number of visitors and past members in attendance.

Catering was provided on the night including a major piece of edible terrain, in the form of a three layer castle-shaped birthday cake, to celebrate the

event. Taking advantage of gathering of members, the opportunity was taken to make presentations to the winners of the recent club competitions.

Congratulations to David Knowles, Greg Small and Martin Foreman for taking the first three places in the Shako competition.

Congratulations also go to all of the winners in the recent painting tattoo, especially Steve Wold and Marcus Tregenza for their efforts in winning multiple categories and to Steve Wold for taking out the grand champions prize.

Thanks to Heinz Schroeder as organiser of the Shako competition, and Steve Wold for painting the magnificent shako trophies (obviously a good choice as painter :-)

The evening also marked the unveiling of the Group North Club Champions' perpetual trophy. This has been donated by David Knowles and features a huge Viking warrior. The trophy has been engraved with the names of all winners of previous club tournament winners, and is now housed in the library.

The highlight of the night was the cutting of the cake. We were lucky enough to have two founding members present, Russ Sheldrick and Len Wilkins. They obliged by formally cutting the cake in acknowledgment of the club's anniversary. Photographs from the evening have been posted on the club notice board, and electronically on the club's website.

Thanks to all of those who made the night possible - Heinz, Greg and Dave for the catering; Marcus, Mike A and Dave for organising the multiplayer

games and Amanda Just (aka Mrs Paul Edgar) for the cake.

Congratulations to all of the winners and a special thank you to all of the club members - past and present - who have worked over the years to ensure that the club has survived and prospered over the last 30 years.

Group North Open Day

The Club's public open day is scheduled for **Sunday, November 24th**.

Games are scheduled from 10:00-4:30. At this stage it is intended that there will be:

- a. Ancients (DBA/DBM),
- b. Renaissance,
- c. 7 Years War,
- d. Napoleonic,
- e. American Civil War,
- f. World War II, and
- g. Warhammer Fantasy Battle.

If you haven't got yourself a game organised yet, come along and join one of these. In addition there will be static figure displays and two trade stands.

The event has been advertised fairly widely, so we are expecting a number of members of the public (and potential new players) to attend and see the gaming.

We will be setting up the tables and terrain on the **Wednesday night prior** to the Open day (20th November). Figure setup is from 9:30 am on the Sunday.

Working Bee

In order to assist with the open day there will be a working bee at the club from **10:00-12:00** on **Sunday 10th November**. Come along if you are able and assist with terrain maintenance and cleaning up around the clubrooms. The club is available afterwards for gaming (so arrange a game in advance, come down for a couple of hours work and get a game in too).

Land Pirates of Southern Italy. By Dave Knowles.

For those you don't know what this is, I'll be brief! This is a smallish campaign that I found in a Miniature Wargames. I have made a few slight modification to the map and we are playing DBA big battles and not DBM.

Thus far we have been playing for other 2 months (real time) and have completed 8 turns.

The Players:

3 Lombard Dukes and their Norman mercenaries.
1 Byzantine and his Normans.
1 Norman Count.
Moslem Horde to annoy all players.

The story thus far...

Byzantines.

Initial moves against the Duke of Benevento proved successful then the Lombard Duke came back for more and won. A secret deal was done and together via differing routes they moved on Salerno.

The campaign in Salerno is going well for the pair, having defeated the Salernan army several times and taken 2 towns.

Duke of Capua.

A sneaky individual who woo'ed the neutral Gaetan province and began utilising it fleet to move around. His army appeared down on the toe of Italy and began to gobble up towns, much to the Byzantines chagrin.

He is the first player to release his Norman mercenary to become a Free agent, though an alliance remains in place.

Duke of Benevento

After failing to get out of bed for several months the Duke was awoken rudely by a Byzantine invasion and due to his sleepiness his got a short sheeted. After much caffeine the great bear awoke and went back to take what was his with success. He then signed a secret deal to butcher his neighbour with the Byzantines. Marching directly on Salerno he laid siege without success only to march north to engage the combined forces of Aversa's Normans, Salerno and Amalfi, which he defeated.

Duke of Salerno

Hmmm, Probably the Duke with the bloodiest hands, as he has had more battle than most.

Unfortunately most have been defeats. His saving grace is literally that. He allied with Amalfi a neutral province after it was attacked by the Aversan Normans. The Amalfians defeated the Normans twice and eventually both side put aside their swords a joined forces to be defeated by Benevento. Currently the province is under siege and the army scattered.

Count Aversa (Normans)

A dangerous person or so we thought until he attacked the Duchess of Amalfi and got a bloody nose twice. After signing a tri-alliance with Amalfi and Salerno he was again beaten in battle by the Duke of Benevento. Morale is low, the Normans are unhappy at his leadership and questions are being asked...

Who's winning?

Well the campaign is victory point based and thus far it be a rocky road for some. Thus far the best faction is the Capuans.

DBM - Berserker 2002

Berserker 2002 was run for the first time this year as a prelude to the larger multi-round DBM competition Companion 2002. Berserker was unique in that it was a knock out format and all army generals had to be Irregular. This competition was 325pts.

We did touch on the Round 1 results last edition however the full results are below. Congratulations to Paul Edgar on his stunning victories to become our inaugural Berserker!

Round 1

Michael Grant (Early Macedonian) v Paul Edgar (Ju-Ming) Result 3 - 7
Harry Dunn (Numidian) v Greg Small (Classical Indian) Result 0 - 10
Marcus Tregenza (Anglo-Norman) v Paul Fribbins (Bosporan) Result 10 - 0
Martin Foreman (Sassanid) v Michael Cleary (Central Asian City States) Result 6 - 4
Chris Young (Kushite Egyptian) v Dave Knowles (Kushan) Result 7 - 3
Ross Dawe (Christian Nubian) v Norm Asquith (Later Bulgar) Result 6 - 4
Terry Whitelaw (Early Hoplite Greek) v Bye

Round 2

Paul Edgar (Ju-Ming) v Greg Small (Classical Indian) Result 10 - 0
Marcus Tregenza (Anglo-Norman) v Martin Foreman (Sassanid) Result 1 - 9
Chris Young (Kushite Egyptian) v Ross Dawe (Christian Nubian) Result 0 - 10
Terry Whitelaw (Early Hoplite Greek) v Norm Asquith (Later Bulgar) Result 0 - 10
Norm as the best scoring loser goes through to the 2nd round

Round 3

Ross Dawe (Christian Nubian) v Norm Asquith (Later Bulgar) Result 9 - 1
Martin Foreman (Sassanid) v Paul Edgar (Ju-Ming) Result 0 - 10

The Final

Paul Edgar (Ju-Ming) v Ross Dawe (Christian Nubian) Result 9 - 1

A New Campaign. By Ross Dawe

After the success of the Wars of the Roses multiplayer DBM campaign earlier this year (in which England ended up ground under the rather pretty heel of Queen Margaret of Anjou, her boyfriend Talbot and their French and German mercenaries), Ross Dawe is planning to run a new campaign.

This time it will be cover the epic saga of the formation of a centralised Chinese empire. Players will take their Dukedoms through the Western Chou, Spring & Autumn, Warring States, Ch-in and early Han Chinese periods as they try to cope with each other and an evolving world. "It's history in the making." Ross Dawe and Paul Edgar will supply all figures. Intended run time is four consecutive Wednesday nights around March next year. Allowance can be made for players who have to miss a session.

Anniversary Port

It is still available at only \$15 a bottle and remember profits go to making our club better.

